



25 February 2002

INFORMATION PAPER

SUBJECT: Field Force Engineering (FFE)

1. Purpose. Provide an overview of Corps of Engineers plan to provide engineering support to theater commanders.

2. Points of Major Interest and Facts:

a. Field Force Engineering.

(1) FFE is the Corps system to support Commander-in-Chief (CINC), Army Service Component Command (ASCC), or theater Army subordinate commands with technical engineering support. FFE provides these commands with engineering options complementary and supporting to Engineer Command (ENCOM). The intent is to leverage the entire Corps of Engineers' technical expertise through the employment of a small forward element at the supported command with reach back to other elements in the Corps.

(2) The FFE system is composed of permanent and on-call resources. Permanent resources are planners/Liaison Officers (LNO) at each CINC and ASCC, and Division EOCs. On-call resources are: Forward Engineering Support Teams - Augmentation (FEST-A), Forward Engineering Support Team - Main (FEST-M); Infrastructure Assessment Team (IAT). Base Development Team (BDT), Engineer Research and Development Center (ERDC), Water Detection Response Team (WDRT), Contingency Real Estate Support Team (CREST), and the Corps' designated Centers of Expertise (CX).

(3) Access to the Corps FFE technical expertise is either through the planner/LNO (positions are currently vacant) or the Pacific Ocean Division: Tom Brady (438-8362) or Steve Philben (438-8366).

b. On-Call Resources.

(1) FEST-A is a 6-person team, which deploys to augment engineering planning capability in-theater. FEST-A reaches back (using tele-engineering) to the cognizant Division to obtain technical engineering solution.

(2) FEST-M is a tailorable engineering/construction execution organization.

(3) IAT is an 8-person team employed to support the FEST-A during Crisis Action Planning (CAP) on infrastructure assessments and capabilities

(4) BDT is a 10-person team located at a Corps military District. The BDT provides installation-level master planning and design for staging bases, base camps, forward operating bases, and displaced persons camps.

(5) ERDC provides technical engineering solutions (remote, bridge assessments, hydrological studies, etc) to support the FEST-A or FEST-M.

(6) WDRT is a deployable asset of ERDC. It locates subsurface water and if necessary drills to obtain it.

(7) CXs provide technical engineering solutions (force protection, terrorism, counter-terrorism). The CXs are accessed through the Division EOC or USACE EOC (UOC).

(8) Contingency Real Estate Support Team (CREST) is a deployable team to accomplish all real estate requirements (acquire leases, easements, etc.).